

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/GEN/181/Add.3
19 June 2003

(03-3273)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES

Submission by the United States

Addendum

Introduction

This document lists and describes SPS-related technical assistance provided by the United States to Members for the period 2002/2003. The United States calls attention to G/SPS/GEN/181, G/SPS/GEN/181/Add.1 and G/SPS/GEN/181/Add.2, which cover US SPS-related technical assistance activities for earlier years.

Bioterrorism Act

In November 2002, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) presented to the WTO SPS Committee substantial information regarding the implementation of the US Bioterrorism Act of 2002. Technical assistance to countries that may require help in implementing changes related to this Act is currently being discussed.

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)

In August 2002, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), working with IICA, provided funds for two representatives from each of the IICA member countries in Latin American and the Caribbean to attend a series of WTO SPS Committee meetings in Geneva. This assistance supports efforts by IICA member countries to promote science-based SPS regulations and the development of a competitive agricultural sector throughout the hemisphere. Representatives will play a key in forging stronger involvement by IICA member countries in the WTO SPS process. The USDA program is funding IICA representatives to four WTO SPS meetings - November 2002, and March, June, and November 2003. The United States, IICA, and other countries are currently discussing how to extend the program beyond this year.

Examples of US technical assistance activities conducted during last year:

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|------------|--|
| Barbados | In February 2003, officials from Barbados, sponsored by the FDA, participated in a food safety evaluation course. The concepts addressed in this instruction focused on the development and support of appropriate regulatory frameworks and food safety systems. This project partially fulfills the technical assistance request from Barbados to the Committee submitted on 5 February 2003 (G/SPS/GEN/295/Add.30). Barbados listed training in the microbiological aspects of food safety and animal health as two types of technical assistance needed. |
| Costa Rica | On 10 January 2003, the FDA presented a workshop on "Food Additive Regulations in the United States", organized by the Costa Rican Ministry of Health. This training |

workshop on FDA regulations and procedures for ensuring the safety of food additives was for 75 scientists and industry representatives from Costa Rica. On 1 May 2003, the Washington Seafood Laboratory shipped Saxitoxins as reference standards to be used by Costa Rica in its emerging molluscan shellfish industry. These two projects partially fulfil Costa Rica's request for technical assistance in the form of food safety training contained in its document (G/SPS/GEN/295/Add.29) published on 10 December 2002.

Guatemala In May 2002, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) of the USDA presented the first Spanish language version of its "Training in Meats and Poultry Inspection (including HACCP) for Foreign Officials" at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR). On 5-10 August 2002, the FDA, in cooperation with the UPR Mayaguez Campus, sponsored the second basic microbiology course "Regulatory Science: Critical Thinking in Analytical Laboratory Procedures for Food Microbiologists." The UPR training was conducted under a Memorandum of Understanding among the FDA, USDA/FSIS, and UPR, in conjunction with the Inter-American Network of Food Analytical Laboratories. These projects partially fulfil Guatemala's request for technical assistance in the form of food safety training contained in its document (G/SPS/GEN/295/Add.22) published on 30 July 2002.

Sub-Saharan
Africa

During May 2003, four Cochran Fellows from Africa attended food-related training programs in the United States. A Plant Protection Officer in Senegal's Ministry of Agriculture studied horticultural crop quality at the University of Georgia at Tifton. A senior food technologist from Botswana's National Food Technology Research Center, participated in a short course on "Fats for Health - Processing and Products" at Texas A & M University. Two representatives from private milling companies in Kenya and Nigeria participated in a Cochran training program in wheat milling and wheat quality in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Asia

In January 2003, the US Codex Office sponsored two technical workshops for public and private sectors officials in India and Hong Kong. The workshop in India included participants from various ministries of the Government of India and representatives from Indian food processing companies and trade associations. Over 160 participants attended the sessions, with about one third from government agencies. The topics covered at this workshop included the organization of Codex within the United States; the US industry role in US Codex; the working of Codex in India and the building of an Indian National Codex Committee; and WTO (SPS and TBT) and risk assessment in Codex.

The training seminar in Hong Kong addressed WTO/risk assessment; general and working principles of risk analysis; equivalence; and traceability. Participants attending the seminar were from Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Mongolia, Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

III. Member: United States

Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Animal Health	Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) has allotted financial resources for technical assistance and training in veterinary health and surveillance for Yugoslavia for FY 2003.	Training in clinical diagnosis of OIE List A diseases; training in reporting and surveillance, epidemiology, and transmission of OIE List A diseases; and training in immunology and molecular diagnostics. FAS and APHIS are working together to develop these training modules.	Yugoslavia	dan.sheesley@usda.gov
Animal Health	APHIS-Vienna is working with FAS-Vienna, US Embassy officials in Bosnia, and Colorado State University An initial planning meeting was held Jan. 20-24 in Sarajevo, Bosnia.	Funding for a veterinary quarantine station and a Level III laboratory to help remedy deficiencies in reporting of Classical Swine Fever.	Bosnia-Herzegovina	dan.sheesley@usda.gov
Animal Health	On 16 August 2002, USDA-APHIS authorized four requests for training in animal health.	Spanish language FAD training held in Plum Island, NY, 18-27 September 2002.	Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina	Eric.Hoffman@usda.gov
Animal Health	During the week of 24 February, a USDA team went to Serbia and Montenegro to organize a June animal epidemiology course in Belgrade.	The course will be based on a model developed by APHIS's Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health to meet the needs of developing countries and to foster two-way trade in animals and animal products.	Serbia and Montenegro	James.Sime@fas.usda.gov
Plant Health	From 3-10 March, FAS/ICD Food Security/Foreign Currency Program negotiated a work plan and budget for the first full year of a collaborative USDA research program with the Plant Genetic Resources Center in Kandy.	Twelve projects, supported with local currency proceeds from P.L.480 programs with Sri Lanka, covered such topics as disease resistance in rice, micro-propagation of fruit crops, and plant quarantine improvement.	Sri Lanka	James.Stevenson@fas.usda.gov

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Plant Health, Animal Health, and Food Safety	In March 2003, FAS/ICD offered a Faculty Exchange Program (FEP) centered on agricultural sciences besides the traditional FEP focus of agricultural economics, agribusiness, and agrarian law.	A 5-month US program to help develop research and teaching skills in animal health, plant health, food quality, food inspection, phytosanitary measures, and grades and standards.	Serbia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Uzbekistan.	Amy.Freitas@fas.usda.gov and Ed.Gerard@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	3 May B 10, FAS/ICD collaborated with the HACCP Consulting Group to conduct a 4-day training workshop for meat processors and inspectors.	The Training workshop involved basic HACCP Plan Development, implementation, and maintenance, including SSOP Programs, E coli and Salmonella testing, and compliance with E coli and Salmonella performance standards. Training also included the roles, duties, and responsibilities of Romanian inspection officials and plant personnel in a PR/HACCP environment for Romanian government inspection officials and industry representatives. The team also conducted an on-site plant review.	Romania	Brain.guse@fas.usda.gov
Animal Health	From 1 7-19 April, the Cochran Program provided transgenic livestock training for a chief veterinarian from the Tashkent Cooperative of Dairy Farmers and a Director from the Tashkent Cooperative Dairy Farm.	The program included a workshop on livestock genetics at South Central College in Minnesota; a workshop in California on methods of increasing genetic variance, herd fertility improvement, and ration composition and feed management; and visits to dairy farms and private companies to see livestock production pertaining to trade in livestock and livestock products.	Uzbekistan	Gretchen.Hopley@fas.usda.gov

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Plant Health, Animal Health, and Food Safety	On 4-11 May, FAS/ICD interviewed Serbia-Montenegro candidates for four weeks of mentoring by US agricultural scientists at three universities (Iowa State, Texas A&M and University of California/Davis).	The scientists focused on topics such as animal/plant health, and food safety under a research and trade capacity building project funded by the US Agency for International Development.	Serbia and Montenegro	Clemen.Gehlhar@fas.usda.gov
Animal Health	From 12-21 March 2003, APHIS sponsored an engineer from the Plant Health Division of El Salvador to attend training on animal genetics in El Salvador.	Training seminar	El Salvador	gtween@aphisquate.com
Animal Health	APHIS has obligated financial resources to help establish an epidemiology center in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The APHIS Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health and the University of Colorado are responsible for this project.	Training workshop and seminars.	Bosnia-Herzegovina	dan.Sheesley@usda.gov
Plant Health	29 March – 11 April, the Foreign Agricultural Service sponsored a program designed by Iowa State University for a senior South African agricultural association member to learn about manufacturing standards and the quality of US agricultural inputs.	Training and site visits.	South Africa	Don.Evans@usda.gov

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	31 March to 12 April, the Foreign Agricultural Service helped seven Brazilian companies to improve their cold chain systems to preserve quality and marketability of temperature-sensitive goods.	Technical training in cold chain systems.	Brazil	Ellen.McCloskey@usda.gov
Plant Health	26-28 March, the Foreign Agricultural Service sponsored a delegation of West African seed industry representatives to the third annual congress of the African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA) in Nairobi. The West Africans networked with AFSTA members to benefit private, commercial traders of agricultural inputs.	Workshop training.	West Africa countries	Micah.Rosenblum@usda.gov
Plant Health	23-29 June 2002, APHIS/PPQ Miami provided plant and quarantine treatment training for Jamaican Ministry of Health employees.	PPQ provided training for 2 Jamaicans on quarantine issues relating to passengers and aircraft, air cargo and maritime cargo. The training also included fumigation and plant inspection information.	Jamaica	Elba.quintero@usda.gov
Plant Health	5-17 August 2002, FAS/ITP, FSIS, APHIS organized a training visit for 4 technical specialists from China	Workshop training aimed at furthering the US-China cooperation to control wheat TCK smut. The group visited wheat farms, grain processing centers. The study tour also provided training in the US wheat inspection process.	China	Cina Radler, email- cina.radler@fas.usda.gov

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Food Safety	5-17 August 2002, 4 technical specialists from Yugoslavia attended a Cochran training program in the US on risk assessment for food borne pathogens.	Training courses on risk assessment.	Yugoslavia	Ellen.mccloskey@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	On 10 March 2003, two food technologists from Botswana and a food-processing consultant from South Africa concluded a three-week program on processing soy-milk and dairy analogs.	Designed by the University of Illinois, the program is to broaden the range of soy products available in Southern Africa, and to provide more nutritious food for people with HIV/AIDS.	Botswana	Don.Evans@usda.gov
Food Safety	Since 2001, in collaboration with the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN) at the University of Maryland, FDA is maintaining the "Food Safety Risk Analysis Clearinghouse." The clearinghouse disseminates current knowledge of risk analysis approaches and promotes use of common language and techniques among countries. It facilitates developing country implementation of science-based, risk-based SPS measures to address food safety hazards.	Internet-based information exchange, with associated opportunities for on-site, formal training in all aspects of risk analysis. JIFSAN's Center for Risk Assessment operates in cooperation with WHO and PAHO.	All interested countries	Wesley Long Email: wlong@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1673

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Food Safety (cont'd)	The internet addresses for the clearinghouse and associated training opportunities are: www.foodriskclearinghouse.umd.edu and www.jifsan.umd.edu/pro_training.htm .			
Food Safety	In May 2002, USDA/FSIS presented the first Spanish language version of its "Training in Meats and Poultry Inspection (including HACCP) for Foreign Officials" at the University of Puerto Rico.	Training in livestock slaughter inspection; HACCP; food safety laws and regulations of USDA (FSIS, APHIS) and FDA; compliance and enforcement programs for sanitation and residues in meat, poultry and milk; pathogen reduction and sanitation SOPs; risk assessment; export certification; inspection of processors and retail facilities.	31 participants from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru.	Margaret McDaniel E-mail Margaret.McDaniel@fas.usda.gov Tel: 202-690-1734 Ana Haydee Fernandez E-mail afernandez@cvm.fda.gov Tel: 301-827-6981
Food Safety	11-18 May 2002, FDA/Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN)-Office of Plant and Dairy Foods and Beverages (OPDFB) held a course on "International Good Agricultural Practices Training Course" towards development of train-the-trainer courses on GAPs and GMPs - in San Jose, Costa Rica - in English and Spanish.	Overview of US food safety programs, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, well design, post-harvest practices and education about good health and hygiene practices. Case studies on strawberries, cilantro, and mango production. Additional speakers from Costa Rica (academia, government and industry).	150 participants from Costa Rica, Belize, Bolivia, Peru	Andreas Keller Email andreas.keller@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2029

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	In May 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OC/DCP sent two shellfish program experts to the Republic of Korea.	Evaluation of the growing area, patrol and plant sanitation elements of the Korean shellfish sanitation program.	Korea	Paul DiStefano E-mail pdistefa@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1410
Food Safety	In June 2002, the Commerce Department's Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) hosted a group of ten standards officials from the Egyptian Organization for Standardization & Quality Control to the US for a consultation tour to evaluate the US system of developing, regulating, and certifying SPS standards.	The training facilitated linkages between Egyptian and US officials, and exposed Egypt to the benefits of the US standards regime.	Egypt	Geneva Pham Email: gpham@doc.gov Tel: 202-482-9029
Food Safety	In June 2002, FDA's Southwest Import District (FDA-ORA-SWID) presented a seminar at the World Food Market Seminar hosted by Bancomex in Mexico City, Mexico.	Importation of Mexican products regulated by FDA to the US.	150 participants from Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Argentina. Developed country reps from Canada, Singapore, Japan, Netherlands, Spain, EU	Julio Salazar E-mail jsalazar@ora.fda.gov Tel: 956-729-9691 x1103
Food Safety	21 June 2002, FDA/ORA lectured at a meeting hosted by El Consejo Mexicano de Comercio Exterior (COMCE) on "How to Obtain Compliance with FDA Regulated Exports from Mexico to the US" in Mexico City, Mexico.	Importation of Mexican products regulated by FDA to the US - to educate small manufacturers, packers and shippers.	35 participants from Mexico	Julio Salazar E-mail jsalazar@ora.fda.gov Tel: 956-729-9691 x1103

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Food Safety	15-19 July 2002, FDA/CFSAN-OPDFB and Office of Compliance held a Produce Farm Investigation Training Course in Uruapan, Michoacan, Mexico for government officials and academics.	Practical training on GAPs, GMPs, and the role of microbiology and epidemiology in outbreak, traceback and farm investigation to provide the fundamentals needed for understanding both US and Mexican approaches and investigational procedures.	30 participants from Mexico	Sherri McGarry E-mail sherri.mcgarry@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2084
Food Safety	In July 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OC/DCP sent a laboratory expert to Chile.	Evaluation of six analytical laboratories operating in support of the laboratory element in Chile's shellfish sanitation program.	Chile	Linda Chandler E-mail lchandler@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2151
Food Safety	In July 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OC/DCP hosted a Shellfish Patrol Training Course in College Park, MD.	Practical and administrative training on all requirements under the Patrol element of the national shellfish sanitation program (NSSP).	3 Mexican government officials	Miriam D. Stuckey E-mail mstuckey@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2148
Food Safety	July 2002, FDA/CFSAN presented seafood HACCP regulation and US import regulations overview to seafood industry and Department of Health, Taipei.	3-week inspection trip of seafood processing plants with national and local departments of health personnel. One-day presentation at Health Department Headquarters, followed individual meetings at processing plants.	Taipei, 80 individuals, approximately half from industry, half from government agencies (local and national)	Gregg Small E-mail gsmall@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2320

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Food Safety	July 15-19, 2002, FDA/CFSAN-OPDFB and the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN) hosted a Train-the-Trainer Course on GAPs and GMPs for primary produce production, with IICA and the Dominican Republic Ministry of Agriculture, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.	Overview of US food safety programs, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, post-harvest practices, education about good health and hygiene practices, food laws and regulations and how to develop and effective training course. Case studies on strawberry and mango production, and worker health and hygiene. An additional speaker from PAHO emphasized specific Dominican Republic worker health and hygiene issues.	50 participants from the Dominican Republic	Julie Schrimpf E-mail julie.schrimpf@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2031
Food Safety	From 1 August – 1 December 2002, FDA's America Fellows Program provided technical assistance in food regulation and science, building on bilateral cooperation to promote food safety and human health in Mexico, with particular interest on risk reduction associated with food borne illness in ready-to-eat foods and fresh-cut produce.	Dr. Keller worked with Mexican officials at Comision Federal para la Proteccion contra Riesgos Sanitarios y Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria, addressing many agricultural, manufacturing and public health issues—fresh produce contamination, GAPs, GMPs, development of guidelines for assessing competency of third party assessors and proposed baseline standards. Dr. Keller also taught many short courses on US food law and regulations, GAPs, GMPs, food safety risk analysis and microbiological testing.	50 participants from Mexico	Andreas Keller E-mail andreas.keller@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1907

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Food Safety	In August 2002, FDA/CFSAN sent representatives to Bangkok, Thailand, to participate in the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Consultation on Risk Characterization of <i>Campylobacter</i> spp. in Broiler Chickens and <i>Vibrio</i> spp. in Seafoods.	Critical review of documents prepared by the <i>ad hoc</i> expert drafting groups. Participants included Codex, WHO and FAO secretariats and risk assessors.	Thailand, Brazil, Chile, Morocco, India. Developed countries present: Canada, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Denmark, Japan, Australia, The Netherlands, France.	Marianne Miliotis E-mail: mmilioti@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1933
Food Safety	On-going Saxitoxin Standards 1 project 83484	FDA/CFSAN's Washington Seafood Laboratory ships Saxitoxins as reference standards to be used by developed and developing countries with molluscan shellfish industries so they can comply with US requirements.	Chile, Philippines, Mexico, Costa Rica, Slovak Republic	Sherwood Hall E-mail: shall@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-210-2160

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Food Safety	On 5-10 August 2002, the second basic microbiology course "Regulatory Science: Critical Thinking in Analytical Laboratory Procedures for Food Microbiologists" was held at the University of Puerto Rico's (UPR) Mayaguez Campus. The training was conducted under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the FDA, the USDA/FSIS and UPR, in conjunction with the Inter-American Network of Food Analytical Laboratories, by FDA/ Office of International Programs (OIP).	Train-the trainer focus on food microbiology analytical laboratory procedures, including data analysis and reporting to support regulatory actions; procedures for selected pathogens; regulatory implications; testing food samples for adulteration; isolation and identification of micro-organisms and microbial products of public health significance; QA and standardized methods for designated food borne pathogens; laboratory safety precautions and environmental controls. Faculty included experts from FDA/CFSAN, FDA/Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), USDA/FSIS and UPR.	21 participants from Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela (academics and laboratory personnel involved in teaching food microbiology and training food microbiologists and laboratory technicians).	Barbara Ward-Groves E-mail: bgroves@oc.fda.gov Tel: 301-827-0029
Food Safety	19-23 August 2002, FDA/CFSAN-OPDFB held a Produce Farm Investigation Training Course in Colima, Mexico for government officials and academicians.	Practical training on GAPs, GMPs, and the role of microbiology and epidemiology in outbreak, traceback and farm investigation to provide the fundamentals needed for understanding both US and Mexican approaches and investigational procedures.	30 participants from Mexico	Sherri McGarry E-mail: sherri.mcgarry@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2084

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	26-30 August 2002, FDA/CFSAN-OPDFB and JIFSAN held a Train-the-Trainer GAPs/GMPs course with the Secretaria de Agricultura, Ganaderia, Desarrollo Rural Pesca y Alimentacion and the Comission Federal para la Proteccion contra Riesgos Sanitarios, in Puebla, Mexico.	Overview of US food safety programs, food laws and regulations, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, post-harvest practices, education about good health and hygiene practices, and how to develop and effective training course. Case studies on strawberry and mango production, worker health and hygiene, and real life fresh produce production practices.	50 participants from Mexico	Daniel Trachewsky E-mail Daniel.trachewsky@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1907 Andreas Keller E-mail andreas.keller@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1907
Food Safety	15-19 September 2002, FDA/CFSAN sent a speaker to the OECD-sponsored workshop on "Safety Assessment of Novel Foods and Feeds" in Moscow, Russia.	Practical training on assessment of safety of foods using a case study prepared by Health Canada on behalf of OECD. The FDA representative was one of four international facilitators for the training (with two from Canada and one from the Netherlands).	40 participants from the Russian Federation, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldava, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan	Linda Kahl Email Linda.kahl@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 202-418-3101
Food Safety	September 9-13, 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OPDFB and ORA/SWID presented a train-the-trainer course on Farm Investigations and GAPs in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico.	Practical training on GAPs, GMPs, and the role of microbiology and epidemiology in outbreak, traceback and farm investigation to provide the fundamentals needed for understanding both US and Mexican approaches and investigational procedures.	Mexico	Andreas Keller E-mail andreas.keller@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1907 Bob Deininger E-mail bdeininger@ora.fda.gov Tel: 214-253-5283

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Food Safety	In September 2002, FDA/CFSAN-Food Safety Staff organized a road trip on food safety to eastern Europe (Warsaw, Poland; Budapest, Hungary; and Prague, Czech Republic). Participants included officials from government, industry, and academia.	Seminars on US food safety infrastructure that included panel discussion on US counter-terrorism measures, security guidance and BT regulations.	100 to 150 at each site: Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary primarily, but attendees from a total of 33 countries.	Camille Brewer Email cbrewer@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1574
Food Safety	In October 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OC/ DCP sent two laboratory experts for consultation and evaluation in support of Mexico's shellfish sanitation program to 4 public health laboratories.	Evaluated, advised, and provided training to staff at laboratories in Mexico, DF; Hermosillo, Sonora; Ensenada, BC; and LaPaz, BC so Mexican shellfish exports can meet US requirements.	Mexico	William Watkins E-mail wwatkins@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	Three-day training event focused on encouraging cooperative efforts between private and public sectors in participating countries to address SPS issues.	Training workshop	Eight West African countries	Emiko.purdy@fas.sda.gov
Food Safety	In October 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OS sent two shellfish program experts to the Republic of Korea.	Training to evaluate the remediation of growing area deficiencies in the Korean shellfish sanitation program for the purpose of restoring Korean shippers to the Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List (ICSSL).	Korea	Paul W. DiStefano E-mail pdistefa@cfsan.fda.gov

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Food Safety	19 November 2002, FDA held a conference for small businesses interested in exporting goods to the US in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico.	Workshop on food safety.	200 participants from Mexico	Adrian Garcia E-mail agarcia@ora.fda.gov
Food Safety	10-21 November 2002, FDA/CFSAN/OPDFB provided a train-the-trainer course on Produce Farm Investigation with an emphasis on GAPS and GMPs at the invitation of the Chilean government in Santiago, Chile and neighbouring farms.	Overview of GAPs, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, well design, GMPs, post-harvest practices, and education about good health and hygiene practices. Case studies on strawberry and mango production, worker health and hygiene. Additional speakers from Chile (associations, government and industry).	50 participants from Chile	Jack Guzewich E-mail john.guzewich@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	18-20 November 2002, 9 staff in FDA/CFSAN hosted a conference in College Park, MD to advise Mexican officials on the status of elements in Mexico's shellfish sanitation program.	Comprehensive review and discussions of the Mexican shellfish safety program and a prospective MOU agreement with FDA.	6 participants from Mexico	Paul W. DiStefano E-mail pdistefa@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	In November 2002, FDA/CFSAN/ OPDFB sponsored a speaker/trainer at a workshop on "Improving the Competitiveness of the Poultry Sector in the Caribbean" in Trinidad sponsored by IICA and the Caribbean Poultry Association.	Sanitary training protocols for egg production, labelling and quality standards for eggs and poultry. Additional trainers were from USDA/APHIS, CFIA, and Canadian Egg Marketing Agency.	Caribbean Countries	Johnny Braddy Email johnny.braddy@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1495

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Food Safety	In November 2002, FDA sent a lecturer to the USDA/APHIS-sponsored South American Regional Meeting on "GAPs Training" in Chile.	Workshop training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and their importance to produce safety to train 50 USDA/APHIS representatives to convey to their respective South American countries.	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela	Julie Schrimpf Email julie.schrimpf@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	December 2002 (4 days), FDA/CFSAN/OS sent an expert on seafood toxin and phytoplankton to provide training and technical assistance toward development of an effective marine biotoxin monitoring program, to Ensenada, Mexico.	Training included phytoplankton cell counts and HPLC analysis for domoic acid, a dangerous toxin sometimes transmitted by shellfish.	15-20 participants from Mexico's 3 states and DF.	Sherwood Hall E-mail shall@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	9 December 2002, FDA/CFSAN discussed food, food safety and food security at Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.	Two training lectures on "Investigation of Foodborne Illnesses" and "The USA's New Bioterrorism Legislation and its Impact on the International Food Trade".	55-60 participants at each seminar, from Thailand predominantly, with a few from other SE Asian countries	George J. Jackson E-mail george.jackson@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	10 January 2003, FDA/CFSAN/ Office of Food Additive Safety (OFAS) presented a workshop on "Food Additive Regulations in the United States," organized by the Costa Rican Ministry of Health.	Training workshop on FDA regulations and procedures for ensuring the safety of food additives, to train government scientists, academic scientists, and industry representatives.	75 participants from Costa Rica	David Carlson Email david.carlson@cfsan.fda.gov

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003				
<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	In February 2003, FDA/CFSAN sent a representative as technical advisor to WHO/PAHO to attend an FAO-WHO/PAHO meeting on "Safety of Food Produced by Biotechnology" in Buenos Aires, Argentina.	Current technical and scientific information on food safety systems.	40 participants from Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela - plus - Webcast to unknown number of additional trainees	Linda Kahl E-mail lkahl@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	In March 2003, CLDP sponsored five food safety officials from the Egyptian Organization for Standardization & Quality Control (EOS) to participate in a two-week consultation tour with various food safety centers in the US to learn about new and alternative food processing and preservation technologies, and food safety applied research.	The two weeks of training exposed the EOS officials to cutting-edge innovations in food processing and preservation technologies and familiarized them with recent advances in food safety research and applications.	Egypt	Geneva Pham Email: gpham@doc.gov Tel: 202-482-9029
Food Safety	In March 2003, FDA/CFSAN conducted a seminar/lecture for seafood processors and FIQD (Fish Inspection and Quality Division) of the Thai government.	Training on interpretation of the Fish & Fisheries Products Hazards & Controls Guidance (Third Edition). Training included a review of changes to the guidance and clarification of current US FDA safety recommendations.	Thailand -200 from industry and 50 from government	Jane Cluster E-mail jcluster@cfsan.fda.gov

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	17-21 March 2003, FDA/CFSAN and JIFSAN hosted a Train-the-Trainer GAPs and GMPs Course in conjunction with the Secretaria de Agricultura, Ganaderia, Desarrollo Rural Pesca y Alimentacion and Comision Federal para la Proteccion Contra Riesgos Sanitarios of the Federal Government of Mexico in Culiacan, Sinaloa.	Training seminars in English and Spanish, on US food safety initiatives and programs, food laws and regulations, the anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, post harvest practices, education about good health and hygiene practices and how to develop an effective training course. Case studies included strawberry, mango production, worker health and hygiene, fresh produce production practices.	50 participants from Mexico	Daniel Trachewsky E-mail Daniel.trachewsky@cfsan.fda.gov Andreas Keller E-mail andreas.keller@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	April 2003, FDA/CFSAN conducted a seminar/lecture for seafood processors and INP (the competent authority and regulatory agency for seafood processing) in Ecuador.	Training in interpretation of the Fish & Fisheries Products Hazards & Controls Guidance (Third Edition). Training included a review of changes to the guidance and clarification of current US FDA safety recommendations.	Ecuador, 50 participants from seafood industry and 6 from government	Jane Cluster E-mail jcluster@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	12-24 May 2003, FDA/CFSAN plans an evaluation of Mexican shellfish sanitation programs on-site in Sonora and Baja California.	Training on evaluation of the growing area, patrol, and plant sanitation elements will be performed in states planning to export molluscan shellfish to the US under a new MOU.	10-12 officials from Mexico	Paul DiStefano E-mail pdistefa@cfsan.fda.gov
Food Safety	In May 2003, FDA/CFSAN/OS sent an expert on marine toxins to evaluate and provide technical assistance in Ensenada, BC, Mexico.	Evaluation of HPLC analytical capability and technical training and assistance in the phytoplankton monitoring program.	10-12 officials from Mexico	Sherwood Hall E-mail shall@cfsan.fda.gov

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003				
<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	In May 2003, USDA/FSIS offered a training course in Spanish, with a lecturer from FDA/CVM, "Training in Meats and Poultry Inspection (including HACCP) for Foreign Officials" at the University of Puerto Rico.	Training on livestock slaughter inspection; HACCP training; food safety laws and regulations of USDA (FSIS, APHIS) and FDA; compliance and enforcement programs for sanitation and residues in meat, poultry and milk; pathogen reduction and sanitation SOPs; risk assessment; export certification; inspection of processors and retail facilities, food irradiation and biotechnology.	Latin America and the Caribbean	Margaret McDaniel E-mail Margaret.McDaniel@fas.usda.gov Ana Haydee Fernandez E-mail afernandez@cvm.fda.gov
Food Safety	16-21 June 2003, FDA/CFSAN/OPDFB and JIFSAN held a Train-the-Trainer GAPs/GMPs course on primary produce production in the Andean countries in Lima, Peru	Training on US food safety programs, food laws and regulations, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, post-harvest practices, education about good health and hygiene practices, and how to develop an effective training course. Case studies on strawberry and mango production, worker health and hygiene, and real life fresh produce production practices.	50 participants from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Venezuela	Michelle Smith E-mail michelle.smith@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-2024
Food Safety	FDA Washington Seafood Laboratory staff provided technical assistance to the Mexican Shellfish Program.	Microscopes were reconfigured and other technical assistance helped speed re-establishment of the shellfish MOU with the US.	Mexico	Sherwood Hall E-mail shall@csfsan.fda.gov

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	24-26 July 2002, sponsored by WHO, FAO, FDA and USDA, JIFSAN hosted, the "1 st International Conference on Microbiological Risk Assessment Foodborne Hazards" with the goal of developing a network of key professionals worldwide in microbiological food safety risk assessment, at College Park, MD.	Travel assistance was provided to 13 international participants. The conference provided a forum for exchange of new concepts and advances in the field and for evaluation of the current status and future needs and directions of the field.	13 travel fellows from Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, China, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, Uganda, plus 10 more countries.	Wes Long E-mail: wlong@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1673
Food Safety	In October 2002 JIFSAN joined forces with WHO and FAO to form the Acrylamide Food Network, a website that shares information and serves as a transparent public data repository to aid in understanding whether acrylamides formed during food processing present a public health risk.	Internet-based information exchange vehicle, http://www.acrylamide-food.org/	All interested countries	Cristina McLaughlin E-mail: cmclaugh@cfsan.fda.gov Tel: 301-436-1978
Food Safety	July-August 2002, the Cochran Program provided a training on food safety for 7 government officials from several countries	The workshop focused on general ideas relating to food safety.	Vietnam, Ethiopia, Latvia, Yemen, Oman and Thailand	Phil.Harlan@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	July-August 2002, the Cochran Program funded a food safety training course.	Training for two plant pathologists on plant virology and disease identification.	Tunisia	Joyann.binsley@fas.usda.gov
Plant Health	June 2002, FAS organised a private/public sector workshop on plant health issues.	Participants for 11 SADC member countries participated in a workshop to facilitate plant and animal health requirements in the SADC region.	SADC member countries	Dan.sheesley@usda.gov

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003				
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Food Safety	April 2002, FAS' Cochran Program provided food safety training for 5 AQSIQ/CIQ officials.	The training directly related to meat inspection and HACCP	China	
Food Safety	May 2002, FAS' Cochran Program funded training courses for 7 private sector employees.	Training was related to the marketing of high value agricultural products.	Vietnam, Korea and Indonesia.	Fred.Johnston@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	May 2002, FAS' Cochran Program funded a food safety training course for 2 participants from Korea	A training course on growing and marketing of organics and natural foods.	Korea	Avis.watts-massenburg@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	May 2002, FAS' Cochran Program funded a food safety course for 5 participants from Ukraine and Kazakhstan.	Participants received training in meat-processing techniques.	Ukraine, Kazakhstan	Joyann.binsley@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	Seminars and meetings to help exporters in other countries learn and comply with US SPS requirements, especially pesticide residue limits	Seminars, meetings with producers and government officials to foster mutual understanding of food safety requirements; capacity building	Latin American and Caribbean countries, Taiwan	Luis Suguiyama Email: suguiyama.luis@epa.gov tel: 703-305-6027 Mary Frances Lowe Email: lowe.maryfrances@epa.gov tel: 703-305-5689
Food Safety	Chemicals Information Exchange and Networking (CEIN) project	Training, assistance in locating data resources	West African countries	Jude Andreasen E-mail: andreasen.jude@epa.gov Tel: 703-308-9342

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Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	In January 2002, US Codex Office hosted a technical seminar on Codex issues for the Asian Region in Hong Kong.	Briefings and information exchange on WTO/Risk Assessment; General and Working Principles of Risk Analysis.	Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Mongolia, Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.	Pat Clerkin E-mail: Patrick.Clerkin-usda.usda@fasau
Food Safety	May 2002, USDA/FAS hosted a risk assessment workshop for 40 technical experts in Morocco	Presentations, information exchange and training on risk analysis and the importance of international standards in risk assessment	Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria	Jennifer Argueta Phone-202-720-0091 Email Jennifer.Argueta@fas.usda.gov
Food Safety	In 2000-2002, EPA hosted environmental and health scientists studying pesticide risk issues for several months	Training experience in risk assessment and pesticide decision-making.	Brazil, Republic of Korea	Dick Biava biava.richard@epa.gov 703-305-6405
Food Safety	In 2001, EPA participated in a series of eight seminars in nine cities, focusing primarily on use of state-of-the-art liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry techniques to measure pesticide residues in food and environmental samples.	Seminars	Asia/Pacific region	Chuck Stafford stafford.charles@epa.gov 410-305-2914
Plant Health	Since 1995 EPA has participated in the development and implementation of North American Regional Action Plans to reduce or eliminate POPs of regional concern (i.e., DDT, Chlordane, Lindane)	Workshops, technical advice and collaborative development and implementation of regional action plans.	Mexico	Keith Chanon Chanon.keith@epa.gov 703.305.5306

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Food Safety and Animal Health	Beginning in 1998, EPA has worked with Mexico and the Pan-American Health Organization to support the phase-out of DDT in Central America. EPA is also working with the World Health Organization in an effort to phase-out DDT in several African countries (2000-present).	Workshops in Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, and Panama to exchange information and prepare a large-scale project proposal for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Implementation of the GEF DDT project in Africa.	Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Africa, Swaziland, Madagascar, Namibia	Keith Chanon chanon.keith@epa.gov 703-305-5306
Plant Health	EPA is working with Mexico to integrate it into the joint review program for new pesticide products. Mexico is planning on following a tiered approach to joint reviews, taking more responsibility with each chemical. There are currently two joint review candidates being considered.	Technical exchange and collaboration	Mexico	Vera Soltero soltero.vera@epa.gov 703-308-9359

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Plant Health	EPA is at the beginning stages of looking at possible reduced risk approaches to management of two crops or crop groups: tomato and pulse crops. These projects seek to: address maximum residue limit discrepancies between the countries, enhance access to reduced risk pesticides through joint reviews and work sharing, look at IPM practices or absence of them, and investigate what research has been done on plant breeding, mechanical practices, rotational issues, etc.	Technical exchange and collaboration	Mexico	Vera Soltero soltero.vera@epa.gov 703-308-9359
Plant Health	Assistance in development and assessment of biopesticides for locust control.	Information and expert advice	Sub-Saharan African countries	Driss Benmhend benmhend.driss@epa.gov 703-308-9525
Food Safety	In 2002 and 2003 EPA is working with the Philippine government to assist them with developing inventories of PCBs and obsolete pesticides. This work supports their efforts to develop their national implementation plan for the Stockholm Convention on POPs. The pesticide work is being carried out in conjunction with FAO.	Training/workshops	Philippines	Janice Jensen jensen.janice@epa.gov 703-305-7706

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<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	Short-term visitors meet with EPA officials to discuss US regulatory policies, especially food safety and registration requirements, biotechnology, and good laboratory practices.	Briefings and information exchange.	Over 160 visitors from 32 countries in 2002.	Dick Biava biava.richard@epa.gov 703-305-6405 Francisca Liem (GLP) liem.francisca@epa.gov 202-564-2365
Plant Health	EPA scientists have served as technical experts to the UN Environment Program and other international organizations to raise awareness of POPS and assist developing nations and regions with POPS implementation activities, including workshops in Russia, Thailand, Mali, Colombia, Zambia, Argentina, United Arab Emirates, Panama, Trinidad, Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, Mexico (Ongoing, 1997-2003)	Regional workshops, funding to WHO for POPs implementation and to FAO to promote activities to prevent accumulation of pesticide stockpiles in developing countries and encourage the use of safer alternatives to POPs pesticides.	Former members of the Soviet Union, the regions of Eastern Europe, Asia, western Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Central America, the Caribbean and the Near East.	Janice Jensen jensen.janice@epa.gov 703-305-7706 Keith Chanon chanon.keith@epa.gov 703-305-5306

III. Member: United States**Table 1 Technical Assistance provided to Members: 2002/2003**

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Description of Particular Programme:</i>	<i>Form of assistance:</i>	<i>Provided to:</i>	<i>Contacts:</i>
Food Safety	In March 2003, FAS provided funding for Pathogen Reduction (PR) and HACCP training for approximately 40 Chilean officials and Chilean export establishment personnel regarding HACCP principles and microbiology sampling, written Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (SSOP) program, written HACCP plans, and E.coli and Salmonella sampling plans.	Training covered the development and implementation of HACCP plans, preparing written recommendations to identify deficiencies and corrective actions to assure compliance with the PR/HACCP Final Rule, and the relationship and role of plant personnel and government inspection personnel under a HACCP-based inspection system.	Chile	Gary.Stefan@fsis.usda.gov
Food Safety	In March 2003, FSIS provided training to enhance the technical skills of approximately 20 Chilean government and private contract laboratories technicians FSIS testing methods and procedures for Salmonella, generic Escherichia coli (E.coli), and Listeria monocytogenes.	Training	Chile	Gary.Stefan@fsis.usda.gov